



FACT SHEET

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

Radiological Data Review

This is the first in a series of fact sheets and other ongoing communication, including community meetings, about radiological data review being conducted at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS). This fact sheet provides background on radiological soil sampling issues at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) that are currently under review; summarizes actions taken since the issue was discovered; provides a plan for development and implementation of future data evaluation objectives; and discusses how the Navy will communicate the results of future testing to the public.

The Navy is committed to engaging the community and keeping them informed about the environmental cleanup process at HPNS and strongly encourages interested community members to participate. HPNS parcels will be transferred from the Navy to Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (Formerly the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency) only after all remedial action necessary to protect human health and the environment has been taken.

Background on Radiological Data Review at HPNS

Public safety is the Navy's highest priority. The Navy is confident that there are no health concerns for tenants, workers, visitors to Navy property, or residents on the adjacent property. In order to successfully cleanup potential contaminants at HPNS and to follow established federal guidelines, the Navy must proceed with cleanup during any investigations, followed by a Navy, State and Federal agencies, and public stakeholders review of the results of any cleanup actions.

Concerns About Contractor Samples

① The Navy's oversight of contractors conducting cleanup work at HPNS revealed that Tetra Tech EC, a Navy contractor, had falsified radiological soil samples. Tetra Tech EC claimed that the soil samples had been taken after cleanup at HPNS, when they were in fact from an area known not to have been affected by Navy activities.

② Upon the discovery of the falsified samples, the Navy notified the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), agencies that manage Tetra Tech EC's radiological licenses. An internal investigation was initiated; new data was collected with strict oversight from areas in question; and corrective actions were taken, including the requirement for additional cleanup.

⑦ Other oversight agencies reviewing the Navy's efforts include the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

⑤ After initial investigations by the Navy and the NRC (pre-2016), former workers at HPNS made claims about Tetra Tech EC activities, including the following:

- Potentially contaminated soil samples were swapped for clean soil samples;
- Potentially contaminated soil was dumped into open trenches in other areas around HPNS;
- Falsified data reports were prepared and submitted to the government; and

- Computer data regarding radiation levels was tampered with to indicate lower levels of radiation.

⑥ In addition to the radiological data issues, these claims are being thoroughly investigated by the Navy and results will be made available to the public when the investigation is complete.

⑧ Navy Actions to Resolve Data Issues

The integrity of environmental data is critical to ensure that the cleanup at HPNS is completed successfully and that any chemicals remaining after cleanup is complete do not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

③ In response to the discovery of the falsified sampling data by Tetra Tech EC, the Navy initiated a comprehensive review of radiological data from soil samples collected by the contractor.

④ After the new sampling and cleanup work was complete, independent analysis of the final data confirmed that radiological contamination had, in fact, been cleaned up properly. (see box to the right)

⑨ Team of Technical Experts

The Navy has assembled a team of technical experts with extensive knowledge and experience to further evaluate the reliability of the radiological data. These technical experts include representatives from the Navy, US EPA, DTSC, CDPH, and the City of San Francisco.

2012 Comprehensive Sample Review

- ✓ More than 70,000 sample results reviewed
- ✓ More than 130 building and land areas resampled with on-site independent supervision
- ✓ Additional soil excavations completed to clean up areas where falsified samples were taken
- ✓ New radiological surveys, including static gamma measurements and systematic soil samples, were performed with on-site independent supervision

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